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feedback circuit] to detect power supplied to the electrical load and to control one or more additional voltage regulators; and

a secondary voltage regulator coupled to the electrical load, to the power supply [circuit], and to [the feedback circuit of] the first voltage regulator, the secondary voltage regulator to provide a second amount of power, the secondary voltage regulator generating a signal to indicate when power is supplied by the secondary voltage regulator.

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2. (Amended) The circuit [arrangement] of claim 1, wherein the secondary voltage regulator further comprises circuitry [a second feedback circuit] to control one or more additional voltage regulators.

3. (Amended) The circuit [arrangement] of claim 2 further comprising a tertiary voltage regulator coupled to the power supply, to the electrical load, and to the [second feedback circuit] secondary voltage regulator, the tertiary voltage regulator [supplying] to supply a third amount of power.

4. (Amended) The circuit [arrangement] of claim 1 further comprising a tertiary voltage regulator coupled to the power supply, to the electrical load, and to the [feedback circuit] primary voltage regulator, the tertiary voltage regulator [supplying] to supply a third amount of power.

Sub B2

5. (Amended) A [computer] system comprising:

a processor module having a processor and a primary voltage regulator coupled to supply a first amount of power to the processor, the primary voltage regulator also [having a feedback circuit for detecting voltage] to detect power supplied to the processor by at least one additional voltage regulator and for controlling at least one additional voltage regulator [regulators]; and

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a system board coupled to the processor module having a secondary voltage regulator coupled to supply a second amount of power to the processor, the secondary voltage regulator coupled to and controlled by the [feedback circuit] primary voltage regulator.

6. (Amended) The [computer] system of claim 5 further comprising a signal communicated from the secondary voltage regulator to the primary voltage regulator to indicate when the secondary voltage regulator is supplying power [to the processor].

7. (Amended) The [computer] system of claim 5, further comprising a docking station configured to receive a mobile computer, the docking station having a tertiary voltage regulator coupled to supply [the processor with] a third amount of power when the docking station has received the mobile computer, the voltage regulator coupled to and controlled by the [feedback circuit] primary voltage regulator.

8. (Amended) The [computer] system of [claims] claim 7, wherein the docking station further comprises an active thermal dissipation device thermally coupled to the tertiary voltage regulator.

9. (Amended) The [computer] system of claim 8 further comprising a [second] signal from the tertiary voltage regulator to the primary voltage regulator to indicate when the tertiary voltage regulator is supplying power [to the processor].

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10. (Amended) The [computer] system of claim 5, wherein the secondary voltage regulator is enabled in a pulse [with] width modulated manner [by the feedback circuit].

Sub B3 }
11. (Amended) A method for supplying power comprising:
supplying power via a first voltage regulator to an electrical load;
detecting whether a secondary voltage regulator is coupled to supply power to the electrical load;
supplying power to the electrical load with the secondary voltage regulator, if present [and if necessary], the second voltage regulator controlled by [a feedback circuit in] the primary voltage regulator.

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15. (Amended) An apparatus for supplying power comprising:

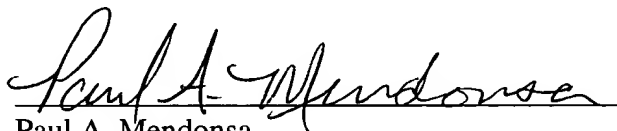
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means for supplying power via a first voltage regulator to an electrical load;
means for detecting whether a secondary voltage regulator is coupled to supply power to the electrical load;
means for supplying power to the electrical load with the secondary voltage regulator, if present [and if necessary], the second voltage regulator controlled by [a feedback circuit in] the primary voltage regulator.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1-11 and 15 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. Thus claims 1-18 remain pending. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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